

NASA does, to say that the research has generated successes in detection and cure of strokes, HIV/AIDS, heart disease, cancer. So we know that NASA is part of our society, and it has the ability to enhance our society.

My congratulations to the *Discovery* crew, to the many women we honor today, such as Ellen Baker, Yvonne Cagle, Tracy Caldwell, Bonnie Dunbar, Anna Fisher, Marsha Ivins, Susan L. Kilrain, Wendy Lawrence, Ellen Ochoa, Judith A. Resnick who has passed of course, Sally K. Ride, Nicole Scott, and many, many others.

It is for us to carry forth their dream by providing the support from the United States Congress but, more important, it is to announce that these women are leaders but also that NASA has laid the groundwork for this society and all around the world to be advanced to a better quality of life.

My salute to NASA and to the fellow employees and as well to the leaders, women, who have taken us into space.

I rise today as a proud cosponsor of H. Res. 450 which congratulates the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the *Discovery* crew. Let me offer my own personal congratulations to this brave crew who returned NASA to flight and made history in our Nation through the advancement of aeronautics.

Being from the City of Houston, which is home to the Johnson Space Center, I take great pride in the accomplishments of NASA. I am proud to say that I was among the Congressional Delegation that was at Cape Canaveral for the anticipated launch. While the correct decision was made not to launch that day, this brave crew was able to successfully complete its mission. The launch of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* came more than 2 years after the tragic *Columbia* shuttle accident. The crew of the *Discovery* included astronauts Steve Robinson, Jim Kelly, Andy Thomas, Wendy Lawrence, Charlie Camarda, Eileen Collins and Soichi Noguchi. With implementation of the *Columbia* Accident Investigation Board recommendations completed, this crew of seven astronauts flew aboard Space Shuttle *Discovery* on mission STS-114 to test new safety techniques and deliver needed supplies to the International Space Station. Two crewmembers, Steve Robinson and Soichi Noguchi, ventured outside the Shuttle three times on spacewalks. The first demonstrated repair techniques on the Shuttle's protective tiles, known as the Thermal Protection System. During the second spacewalk, they replaced a failed Control Moment Gyroscope, which helps keep the station oriented properly. Finally, they installed the External Stowage Platform, a sort of space shelf for holding spare parts during Station construction. STS-114 will also be the third trip of the Multi Purpose Logistics Module (MPLM) named Raffaello to the Station. It's essentially a "moving van" that transports supplies to the orbital outpost.

I have consistently stated that since the *Columbia* shuttle accident, safety must be our number one priority. All Americans can look proudly upon the achievements of our space exploration when they look upon the crew of the Space Shuttle *Discovery*.

Truly, we as a Nation have come a long way in the area of space exploration since

President John F. Kennedy set the course for our Nation when he stated in a speech at Rice University in 1962: "We set sail on this new sea because there is new knowledge to be gained, and new rights to be won, and they must be won and used for the progress of all people. For space science, like nuclear science and technology, has no conscience of its own. Whether it will become a force for good or ill depends on man, and only if the United States occupies a position of pre-eminence can we help decide whether this new ocean will be a sea of peace or a new terrifying theater of war . . . The great British explorer George Mallory, who was to die on Mount Everest, was asked why did he want to climb it. He said because it is there. Well, space is there, and we're going to climb it. And the moon and the planets are there. And new hopes for knowledge and peace are there. And therefore, as we set sail, we ask God's blessing, on the most hazardous, and dangerous, and greatest adventure, on which man has ever embarked." Our Nation has seen great tragedy and yet we continue to move forward because that is the only path that knowledge will accept; truly it is appropriate that this shuttle was named *Discovery*.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 450, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING NASA AND THE "DISCOVERY" CREW

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 441) to congratulate the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the *Discovery* crew of Commander Eileen Collins, Pilot Jim Kelly, Mission Specialist Charlie Camarda, Mission Specialist Wendy Lawrence, Mission Specialist Soichi Noguchi, Mission Specialist Steve Robinson, and Mission Specialist Andy Thomas on the successful completion of their 14 day test flight to the International Space Station for the first step of the Vision for Space Exploration, begun from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, on July 26, 2005, and completed at Edwards Air Force Base, California, on August 9, 2005. This historical mission represented a great step forward into the new beginning of the Second Space Age, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 441

Whereas the Space Shuttle Return-to-Flight is the first step in the Nation's Vision for Space Exploration;

Whereas the Space Shuttle *Discovery* Crew completed three highly successful extra-vehicular activity spacewalks;

Whereas the STS flight 114 accomplished the first in-flight heat shield repairs on the Space Shuttle;

Whereas the *Discovery* crew delivered more than 6 tons of needed supplies and equipment to the International Space Station;

Whereas *Discovery*'s spacewalkers removed a failed Space Station gyroscope and replaced it with a new one, restoring full capability of the Station's attitude control system;

Whereas the *Discovery* mission successfully used three different Canadian robotic extensions to conduct spacewalks and to survey the Shuttle: the Shuttle Canadarm; the Space Station Canadarm2; and the Orbiter Boom Sensor System;

Whereas the crew of the *Discovery* experienced "virtual" visits from leaders of 2 nations, the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Japan; and

Whereas Commander Eileen Collins led the crew of 7 and guided the *Discovery* vehicle through an unprecedented back flip maneuver: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the entire National Aeronautics and Space Administration team and community, who provided invaluable technical support and leadership for the historic mission of Space Shuttle *Discovery* STS flight 114;

(2) commends Commander Eileen Collins, for being the first female space shuttle commander and a role model for all;

(3) commends Col. Jim Kelly, pilot of STS 114, for his second flight aboard the Space Shuttle and his participation in robotic arm operations;

(4) commends Charlie Camarda, mission specialist, a "rookie" who performed like a veteran by transferring the multipurpose logistics module from the International Space Station to the Space Shuttle;

(5) commends Wendy Lawrence, mission specialist, for outstanding skill in operating Canadarm2;

(6) commends Soichi Noguchi of Japan, mission specialist, a "rookie" who was a "spacewalker" for the inspections and repairs of the Space Shuttle;

(7) commends Steve Robinson, mission specialist, for his outstanding skill as a "spacewalker," who enhanced and repaired *Discovery* and the International Space Station; and

(8) commends Andy Thomas, mission specialist, who performed the laser checks on the leading edge of the Space Shuttle by the operation of Canadarm2.

□ 1615

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 441, the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, we are paying tribute to real American heroes, the crew of the return-to-flight STS-114 Discovery shuttle mission and the NASA team and community on the ground. These heroes have the right stuff that inspires a Nation, from kids studying math and science, to all of us who are awed and inspired by NASA, and our astronauts.

When I introduced this resolution less than a week ago, we had such enthusiastic support that we quickly secured 55 bipartisan cosponsors who represent communities across the Nation. When we pass this resolution today, we plan to present a copy to each member of the *Discovery* crew as a token of the Nation's gratitude for their heroism.

We all worry about the competitiveness of this great Nation and the fact that our schoolchildren are less competitive in math and science than many of their international peers. Currently, the U.S. share of undergraduate and graduate degrees in sciences and engineering has been falling behind those of Asia and Europe. Intuitively, we know that we need to encourage our youth to study these challenging subjects, and with heroes like Commander Eileen Collins, Pilot Jim Kelly, Mission Specialists Charlie Camarda, Wendy Lawrence, Soichi Noguchi, Steve Robinson, and Andy Thomas, it is much easier to inspire American students to devote their time and studies to science, as we saw during the Apollo program.

The NASA family and this *Discovery* crew have initiated the first step of the Nation's Vision for Space Exploration. Last year, the President announced the Vision for Space Exploration which states that NASA will complete the International Space Station, will return to the Moon no later than 2020, and will extend human presence across the solar system and beyond. This week, NASA released its Exploration Architecture for this vision, which outlines the steps NASA plans to take in order to return to the Moon and explore our solar system over the next 13 years.

In the first space age, our Nation invested in the space program to gain global leadership during the Cold War. Now we are in the second space age, with our global competitiveness worldwide at stake. We must have the United States at the forefront in the exploration of our solar system and the global leader in the high-technology industries. Our preeminence in the world is dependent on our leadership in space.

We honor the STS-114 *Discovery* crew as true American heroes. They are strong men and women who motivate our children and inspire our Nation and the world. They have taken the historic first step of the Vision for Space Exploration and have brought us one step closer to our Nation's destiny.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave crew of STS-114 for their hard work and dedication in carrying out the space shuttle's return-to-flight mission.

The astronauts of STS-114 did a superb job. They performed their tasks flawlessly, executing complex maneuvers, conducting several space walks, performing on-the-fly repairs, and delivering critically needed supplies to the International Space Station. In short, they made it look easy, but in fact we know that it was an extremely challenging mission.

I am pleased that this House is honoring their accomplishments today. At the same time, I think they would be the first to acknowledge that they did not do it alone.

The STS-114 crew was backed by a superb team on the ground who also deserve our praise. The engineers and support staff who made this mission possible should be equally proud of their accomplishments. Their hard work and long hours spent preparing for this mission are fully recognized and gratefully appreciated.

Thus, by our actions today, we thank all of those who are responsible, not just the astronauts, but the entire NASA team, thousands of dedicated men and women at NASA centers and at contractor facilities across the country. We thank them for their dedication and perseverance, and we want them to know that they are special to us.

NASA has made great strides since the tragic *Columbia* accident. While it is clear that additional work lies ahead, it is fitting that we take a moment to celebrate what has been accomplished thus far.

I would like to thank the gentleman from California (Chairman CALVERT) for his leadership in introducing this outstanding resolution, and I am honored to speak in support of it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from upstate New York (Mr. BOEHLERT), the chairman of our committee.

(Mr. BOEHLERT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I will insert this wonderful statement, developed by a very capable staff, in the RECORD, but let me just speak a couple of minutes about something that I think is really important.

While we salute the magnificent team of people that made STS-114 possible, and I am not just talking about Colonel Collins and her crew, I am talking about all those dedicated professionals in NASA all over the country. They are a part of a team that developed the success story, but I want to salute the American taxpayers for supporting this mission with their hard-earned tax dollars.

A lot of people will say to me what is all this about space, this Buck Rogers stuff, flying in the heavens? I will tell my colleagues what it is about. It is about finding new ways, better ways, to do things for the most important planet in the universe, the one we live on, the planet Earth.

We derive so much from that investment in space right here at home on the planet Earth, and Colonel Collins and all the other team provide a constant source of inspiration to our young people to pursue career opportunities, to master the science and math disciplines. It is wonderful. And if the United States of America hopes to maintain its preeminent position in the international marketplace, we have got to do better. What better example of what can be achieved than the dedicated, committed, outstanding crew of Space Transportation System 114?

It is a pleasure for me to join my colleagues in congratulating them and all of their associates in the NASA family and all those contractors, all the thousands of people who made possible this wonderful success story.

I want to congratulate the entire NASA return-to-flight team and the seven members of the crew of STS-114 for the recent successful completion of their 14-day mission on the Space Shuttle *Discovery*. Specifically, I would like to congratulate Commander Eileen Collins, Pilot Jim Kelly, Mission Specialist Charlie Camarda, Mission Specialist Wendy Lawrence, Mission Specialist Soichi Noguchi (SO-ee-chee NO-gu-chee), Mission Specialist Steve Robinson, and Mission Specialist Andy Thomas on the successful completion of their test flight to the International Space Station.

We commend the crew for the risks they take in furthering our Nation's goals in space exploration and we recognize them for the fine examples they set in pushing back the frontiers of knowledge. This flight was the first since the *Columbia* accident more than 2½ years ago and represents the culmination of a tremendous amount of work by government and contractor engineers, scientists, technicians, and operators. This flight also brought more than six tons of much needed supplies to the International Space Station. The return-to-flight team and crew is to be congratulated for this important step in moving our Nation's human spaceflight program forward.

I would like to thank the Chairman of the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee for introducing this resolution to recognize the significant achievements of the NASA team and the crew of STS-114.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON).

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me thank my colleague for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor.

I rise to congratulate the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the *Discovery* crew on their successful return to flight this spring and on the many hours of work leading up to that pivotal moment.

As a member of the House Committee on Science, I support NASA's commitment to science and technology research in space. It has been very successful. I also support the breakthroughs in aeronautics research that NASA has made over the years.

NASA research touches many aspects of our everyday lives such as satellite phone technologies, intensive care monitoring, highway safety, breast cancer biopsies, and hurricane observation technology, and I could go on.

To NASA and the *Discovery* crew, I say well done. I was really on pins and needles until they hit Earth safely.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Dallas, Texas (Mr. HALL).

(Mr. HALL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution to congratulate NASA and the crew of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* on their very successful completion of their latest mission.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution to congratulate NASA and the crew of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* on the successful completion of their latest mission to the International Space Station. Commander Eileen Collins, Pilot Jim Kelly, Mission Specialists Charlie Camarda, Wendy Lawrence, Soichi Noguchi, Steve Robinson, and Andy Thomas skillfully executed the 14-day mission in outer space.

This Space Shuttle mission was the first since the *Columbia* disaster two years ago. NASA learned a great deal from that accident, and this test flight two months ago helped the space agency learn even more. While in space, the crew completed three successful spacewalks, and accomplished the first in-flight heat shield repairs on the Shuttle. The two-week mission also encompassed the first "back flip maneuver" so that crew could take pictures of the underbelly of the Shuttle to determine if there was damage to the vehicle during lift-off.

The *Discovery* crew also delivered more than 6 tons of needed supplies and equipment to the International Space Station. While on the Station, "spacewalkers" Noguchi and Robinson replaced a failed gyroscope with a new one, thus restoring full capability of the Station's attitude control system. The crew also facilitated "virtual visits" from the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Japan.

Returning the Shuttle to flight was the first step toward meeting the goals of the new Vision for Space Exploration—it helps America fulfill its promise to our international partners to complete the International Space Station. While the Shuttle's next return to space will be delayed for a few months as engineers work to redesign the tiles on the fuel tank, I am hopeful that we will soon be on our way back to the Station.

Just this week, NASA administrator Michael Griffin unveiled detailed plans for achieving the goal of returning to the moon by 2018 and pushing on to Mars beyond that date. I am particularly pleased that the plans include many crew safety mechanisms for the new space ship. Astronauts like the ones we are

honoring today, deserve our best efforts to ensure their safe journey into space and return to earth. Our hopes and dreams ride with them, and we must do all we can, at whatever cost is necessary, to ensure their safety.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to help make the Vision for Space Exploration a reality. With astronauts like the *Discovery* team and specialists and staff at NASA, America will continue to push frontiers and lead the world in space exploration and discovery.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank my fellow Texan for the time, and I rise to congratulate NASA and, of course, the *Discovery* crew for the outstanding work and for the history that they made.

It is history for the United States to be able to return to space. Though, we have had a longstanding commitment, and NASA has been the agency and arm and focal point of Americans', if you will, fascination with space and science and the wonderment of exploration, it is important to celebrate this *Discovery* crew, not only because of Eileen Collins, but because of the bravery which they showed.

One of the issues we have been grappling with and working with since the tragedy of both *Challenger* and *Columbia* is the issue of safety. Even in the most scrutinized of Space Shuttle *Discovery*, it was determined that there was a deficiency in the launch, and a difficult posture was set for those who were now on board and in space. The cool-headedness, the cohesion of the crew, the guiding hand of the commander and the work of the Kennedy Space Center staff and the Johnson Space Center staff and all of the others created this opportunity for a safe return.

At the same time, I think what *Discovery* proved to us is that there is no measure we should leave, no stone unturned as relates to safety, and I look forward to my colleagues moving forward on hearings to address the question of how we can be even more safe and move more resources toward the question of safety and research.

So my salute to the *Discovery* crew for what they have done not only for their places in history, but what they have done with respect to the United States return to flight and our first step toward the Nation's Vision for Space Exploration. We have now begun where we started in the 1960s, with CAMRA. We have never given up hope. We have never given up the light that space provides for our young people.

Might I say that I am excited by the interest of our committee in working on funding sources to be able to encourage more young people in America to take up the sciences; more girls, and certainly boys, but an emphasis on young girls and young women to go into geology and biology and chemistry and the earth sciences and astronomy

and to be able to be part of this new vision of science and exploration in the 21st century.

I thank the *Discovery* crew. I thank them for their place in history. I thank them for the place in history they have put America and Americans, and I thank them for helping us return to our vision and that is the Nation's Vision for Space Exploration. Congratulations to all and to their families.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 441, congratulating the NASA STS-114 team on the successful completion of the historic test flight to the International Space Station.

I join my colleagues in applauding Commander Eileen Collins and her crew on the outstanding job they did onboard the Shuttle *Discovery*. This 14-day journey was one of the most complex space missions in the history of our Nation's space program. The crew successfully completed three spacewalks, and accomplished the first in-flight repair of the Shuttle's heat shield. They replaced a failed gyroscope onboard the Space Station, helping restore the capability to control the Station's position in orbit. The crew also successfully utilized the new Orbiter Boom Sensor System for the first time. This boom system gives NASA an unprecedented ability to examine the condition of the Shuttle once it reaches orbit. And after an extended grounding of the Shuttle fleet, the *Discovery* crew delivered more than 12,000 pounds of much needed supplies and equipment to the Station. *Discovery* and its crew also returned about 7,000 pounds of Station material back to Earth. All of us are very proud of their heroism and resolve during their mission.

I also congratulate the NASA team on the ground who worked day and night to ensure that this mission was a success, and as safe as possible. In Congress, I have the privilege of representing NASA employees and contractors at the Marshall Space Flight Center. I am proud of their hard work and dedication to making this *Discovery* flight as safe as possible.

Mr. Speaker, STS-114 was the first of two Return-to-Flight test flights. And NASA collected an unprecedented amount of test data from this flight. NASA will build on what it has learned from this *Discovery* mission as it prepares for the second test flight. There is much work yet to be done, but I believe that under the leadership of Administrator Mike Griffin, NASA is moving along the correct path.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to remember the brave crewmembers of the Shuttle *Columbia*. *Discovery*'s successful mission, and the ongoing work towards the second Return-to-Flight test flight, represents our nation's ongoing commitment to the *Columbia* crew's spirit of exploration.

I strongly urge my colleagues to adopt this resolution.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 441, which congratulates the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Space Shuttle *Discovery*'s crew for their recent 14-day test flight. The mission was an important step in returning the Shuttle to flight and toward meeting our obligations in completing the International Space Station. The many NASA employees and contractors who worked to make the flight safe and successful deserve our support and praise.

The Shuttle's successful flight lays the foundation for an exciting decade for NASA and an exciting time for everyone interested in space science and exploration. I am especially looking forward to several missions that NASA will undertake through the La Canada Flintridge-based Jet Propulsion Laboratory. As my colleagues well know, I have the privilege of representing JPL and I am a strong supporter of it here in Congress. JPL's missions have consistently generated public support and are a mainstay in NASA's scientific portfolio.

JPL's continued management of NASA's Mars program, which for the last year and a half has brought us the twin Rovers Spirit and Opportunity, has resulted in unprecedented success. In addition, the planned 2007 launch of the Phoenix Mars Scout and the 2009 launch of the Mars Science Laboratory will provide the country with a long-duration science laboratory that represents a major leap in space exploration. Specifically, MSL will collect soil samples and rock cores from Mars and analyze them for organic compounds and environmental conditions that could have supported microbial life in the past.

Through its work at JPL, NASA is also slated to begin two major missions that will give us greater insight into the origins of our universe. The first of these is the Space Interferometry Mission, or SIM PlanetQuest. Scheduled for launch in 2012, SIM will determine the positions and distances of stars several hundred times more accurately than any previous program. This precision will allow us to measure the distances to stars throughout the galaxy and to probe nearby stars for Earth-sized planets. The second mission, the Europa Orbiter, will discover whether an ocean exists beneath the surface of one of Jupiter's most interesting moons. This mission should launch in 2015.

JPL is also poised to conduct a series of missions that will examine Earth and lead to better predictions and understandings of our planet's climate. These missions include the launch of CloudSat later this year; the Ocean Surface Topography Mission and the Orbiting Carbon Observatory in 2008; and the 2009 launch of Aquarius, which will provide the first-ever global maps of salt concentrations on the ocean's surface. These missions will provide valuable insight into our planet's precipitation and weather patterns.

Each of JPL's current and future missions are an integral part of NASA's overall space exploration plan. With JPL's missions and other NASA initiatives, such as the agency's rollout of its new exploration architecture for returning to the Moon, there can be no doubt the next decade will be an exciting one.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to again say that the most recent Shuttle mission is just another example of what NASA is doing right. I am pleased to join my colleagues today in congratulating the crew and look forward to another successful Shuttle mission in the near future.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues to acknowledge the crew of STS-114 in their heroic mission to the International Space Station this past summer. Their mission was watched with awe and appreciation by the entire world. I am proud that so many of my constituents work with NASA and especially the Human Space Flight program.

Great nations explore. America has taken up this banner and has committed itself to

space exploration. We gain so much for our efforts. Space is of such a vital interest to our Nation from an economic and strategic vantage point. The Shuttle *Discovery* and her crew provided a vital support and logistics mission to the ISS. Their mission was an important part of our on-going exploration of space. I thank the crew and all of those who made the mission a success.

We have a wonderful new Vision for Space Exploration that includes a return to the Moon and eventually go onward to Mars. STS-114 played its own small, but critical part in that journey.

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave astronauts of STS-114, Space Shuttle *Discovery*. These astronauts, and the entire NASA team, should be very proud of their accomplishments.

The long hours of training and preparing paid off in the nearly flawless execution of multiple spacewalks and many other critical tasks on this mission, including delivering much needed supplies to the space station and performing unprecedented in-flight repairs.

Americans all across this country were riveted by the adventures of these men and women. In fact, there was so much interest that new internet records were set: more than two-and-a-half million people visited NASA's website over the course of this mission.

Many of those "hits" were children, tomorrow's explorers, who have found new heroes and role models in the crew of STS-114. By showing our children what they can accomplish, these astronauts inspire the next generation and encourage them to focus on science, engineering and technology—fields that are vital to our future economy and security.

The ability to inspire is, perhaps, the greatest benefit of our space program and this *Discovery* crew has provided inspiration for all of us.

It is fitting that we honor the crew of STS-114 and all of the NASA employees and contractors who are helping this Nation explore space. I thus am proud to be an original cosponsor of H. Res. 441, and I urge its adoption.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, heroes are those select few among us who are endowed with courage and strength, those who risk life and limb to further a cause greater than themselves. I rise today to honor seven such heroes, the astronaut crew of STS-114.

These men and women should be very proud of what they accomplished on this historic mission. Through their bravery and ingenuity they helped bring our manned space program back to life. After two-and-a-half years on the ground, we have finally returned to space to continue our exploration into the unknown.

Though our shuttle program still faces many challenges in the months and years to come, we are taking time today to acknowledge the progress NASA has been made thus far. I would like to thank those responsible, not just the astronauts, but the entire NASA team, thousands of dedicated men and women at NASA centers across the country, for their commitment.

In honoring the astronauts of STS-114, we should not forget those who came before them. By continuing our exploration of space, this mission continues their legacy. I am sure

that the brave souls who gave their lives aboard the *Columbia* would be very proud of this *Discovery* crew.

Their steps of progress will lead us into the next chapter of human exploration.

Thank you and I urge members to suspend the rules and pass this resolution.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 441.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 29 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIMMONS) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3761, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 441, by the yeas and nays.

FLEXIBILITY FOR DISPLACED WORKERS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 3761, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3761, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.